

O D E.

IN IMITATION OF HORACE, *ODE III. L. III.*

IVSTVM AC TENACEM PROPOSITI VIRVM.

ADDRESSED TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE

SIR ROBERT WALPOLE:

ON CEASING TO BE MINISTER.

FEBRUARY VI. MDCCLXI.

DESIGNED A JUST PANEGRIC,
ON A GREAT MINISTER,
THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION,
PROTESTANT SUCCESSION,
AND PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY.
TO WHICH IS ADDED THE ORIGINAL ODE,
DEFENDED, *IN COMMENTARIO LO.*
BY SIR WILLIAM BROWNE, M. D.



*Conamur tenues grandia: nec pudor,
Imbellisque lyrae Musa potens vetat
Laudes egregii Caesaris, et Tuas
Culpa deterere ingenî. HOR.*

LONDON, MDCCLXV.

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Price One Shilling.



To the Right Honorable

G E O R G E E A R L O F O R F O R D,

Lord Lieutenant of the County of N O R F O L K.

My Lord,

IT is from a principle of gratitude, that I take this public opportunity to acknowledge, what I never can forget, the many favors conferred on me, by your Grandfather, Father, and Self. But, it was from a principle of regard for the Liberty of my Country, that I paid this deserved tribute of praise to your truly patriot Grandfather: and it was from a principle of abhorrence of the least appearance of adulation, that I chose to time it, after the decease of his Power.

Upon these principles, I shall make no scruple to advance and maintain: That the great SIR ROBERT WALPOLE laid the firm foundation of the glory and felicity of this NATION, by effectually defeating and disabling, it was hoped and expected, for ever, all those notoriously determined Enemies of the Glorious Revolution, and Protestant Succession, in the Illustrious House of HANOVER. An Herculean Labor indeed! as He found this COUNTRY at that Time circumstanced: and which required Measures, though Otherwise not to be Authorized; yet, on this Great Occasion, absolutely necessary, and fully justified, on that perpetual political Principle: *Ne quid detrimenti capiat RESPUBLICA.*

I expect this publication will be considered, as a double offence against the common construction of that ever memorable

Maxim

Maxim of One of the Seven Wise Men : Καίρῳ γινῶσι. In celebrating a Minister after the expiration of his power : and a Patron after the expiration of his life. But, this at least may be said for it : how gross soever the errors of it may be thought, as to time ; the Contents of it cannot but be confessed seasonable, as to the Times.

In the first excellent Institution of the MILITIA ; that Guardian of Liberty at home ; that Parent of Victory abroad, so that it may truly be said, America was conquered in England : having had the honor to be appointed, quite unexpectedly, one of Your Deputy Lieutenants ; and named, as readily, in Your first Commission of the Peace, obtained for our County of NORFOLK ; I have great reason to subscribe myself,

Your Lordship's
most obliged, and
obedient servant,

Queen-Square,
Jan. 3. 1765.

William Browne.

O D E.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE
SIR ROBERT WALPOLE.

THE MINISTER resolv'd, and just,
True to his KING's, and COUNTRY's trust,
Defies the Tyrant Faction :
Howe'er the many heads may stare,
Grown horrid, with a Gorgon air
Of general distraction.
Not threatening BARNARD, who commands
The angry City's furious bands,
And brandishes her Dagger* :
Not thundring POULTNEY, tho' he awes
The Senate to desert his cause,
His Steady Soul can stagger.
Th' impending Storm, that louder grows,
From shrinking Friends, and swelling Foes,
Intrepidly he faces :
Untouch'd by guilt, he knows no fears,
And only Greater still appears,
Divested of his Places.

Thus

HORATII ODE III. LIB. III.

IUSTVM, ac tenacem propositi virum
Non civium ardor prava iubentium,
Non vultus instantis tyranni
Mente quatit solida, neque Auster
Dux inquieti turbidus Adriæ,
Nec FULMINANTIS MAGNA MANVS IOVIS:
Si fractus INLABATUR orbis,
Impavidum FERIENT ruinae.

* The City arms.

Thus, SOMERS, for great service done,
 Thus, MARLBOROUGH, for battles won,
 Were by curst Faction treated :
 Who now, quaff Nectar's flowing tide,
 With lov'd GODOLPHIN by their side,
 Coelestially seated.

Thus, our Deliverer WILLIAM rose,
 By opposition of his foes,
 To his Immortal Glory :
 Thus, our Great GEORGE advanced to Fame,
 And still shall have Old Steady's name,
 In Everlasting Story.

GEORGE thus address'd his Brother GODS,
 Assembled in their blest Abodes,
 And BRITAIN's Fate debating.
 Long have the STUARTS ceas'd to reign,
 Since JAMES's Priests, and foreign Queen,
 Drove on his Abdicating.

Soon

*Hac arte Pollux, et vagus Hercules
 Enifus arces attigit igneas :*

*Quos inter Augustus recumbens
 Purpureo bibit ore nectar.*

*Hac te merentem, Bacche pater, tuae
 Vexere tigres, indocili jugum*

*Collo trabentes : hac Quirinus
 Martis equis Acheronta fugit ;*

*Gratum elocuta consiliantibus
 Iunone Divis. ILION, Ilion*

*Fatalis incestusque iudex,
 Et mulier peregrina vertit*

In pulverem ;—————

Soon as he from the Church withdrew
 His Grace, by solemn promise due,
 And broke all Limitation :
 His forfeit Crown, by just Decree,
 Was doom'd to WILLIAM, and to ME,
 To save a sinking Nation.

The Bigot King shall now no more
 Hold commerce with Rome's Scarlet Whore,
 Nor back her Superstition :
 No more shall STUART's p——d House
 BRITAIN's credulity abuse,
 While plotting her perdition.

But, Foes subdued my pity meet,
 WILLIAM's famed Boyne gave one defeat,
 And my Dumblain another :
 My Coward Cousin now I own,
 Since SCOTLAND proves him JAMES's Son,
 Who'ever was his mother.

Nay,

—— *ex quo destituit Deos*
Mercede pacta Laomedon, mihi
Castaeque damnatum Minervae
Cum populo, et duce fraudulento.

Iam nec Lacaenae splendet adulterae
Famosus hospes : nec Priami domus
Perjura pugnaces Achivos
Hectoreis opibus refringit.

Nostrisque ductum seditionibus
Bellum resedit. Protinus et graves
Iras et invisum nepotem,
Troia quem peperit sacerdos,
Marti redonabo.———

—— *Illum*

Nay, frauds* forgotten, I'm content,
He should be rank'd in right descent :

Let but the British Ocean
Still roar between his Sons and Mine,
And let the Royal Exiles reign,
Where they can find promotion.

Since Tyranny has met its fate,
And Liberty, in Church, and State,
Now triumph o'er its ruin :
BRITAIN shall stand most truly GREAT,
And see her Foes bow at her feet,
For Peace most humbly suing.

Her Fleets shall all around proclame
To farthest shores her dreaded name,
In peals of British Thunder :
Cross from the Old World to the New,
Their Sails shall flie, her Fame pursue,
And fill both Worlds with wonder.

Nor

—————*Illum ego lucidas
Inire sedes, ducere nectaris
Succos, et adscribi quietis
Ordinibus patiar Deorum.
Dum longus inter saeviat Ilion
Romamque pontus ; qualibet exsules
In parte regnanto beati :
Dum Priami Paridisque busto
Insultet armentum, et catulos ferae
Celent inultae ; stet Capitolium
Fulgens, triumphatisque possit
Roma ferox dare jura Medis.
Horrenda late nomen in ultimas
Extendat oras ; qua medius liquor
Secernit Europen ab Afro,
Qua tumidus rigat arva Nilus :*

* Suspicions of Supposititious birth, &c. Burnet's History.

Nor shall she seek for Golden Mines,
That base allay to Great Designs,
That stain to the victorious :
Should Heroes, after actions bold,
Turn Misers, and now thirst for Gold,
How must they fall inglorious !

No Bounds shall check her conquering Arms,
Whenever a just Cause alarms,
And Wrongs are to be righted :
Nor scorching Suns, nor freezing Poles
Shall bar my Britons daring Souls,
When once to War excited.

But these Great Things, that I relate,
Can onely be her Glorious Fate,
On this exprefs Condition ;
That with False Zele no more she burns,
No more to STUARTS Race returns,
And papal Imposition.

To

*Aurum inrepertum, et sic melius situm
Dum terra celat, spernere fortior,
Quam cogere humanos in usus
Omne sacrum rapiente dextra.*

*Quicumque mundo terminus obstitit
Hunc TANGAT armis, visere gestiens
Qua parte debacchentur ignes,
Qua nebulae pluviique rores.*

*Sed bellicosus fata Quiritibus
Hac lege dico : ne nimium pii
Rebusque fidentes, avitae
Tecta velint reparare Trojae.*

D

Trojae

To raise again that hated Line,
Should e'er a trait'rous faction join,
Grown mad with too much freedom :
Again my Pow'rs shall take the field,
Again the coward Chiefs shall yield,
And Treason's ax behead 'em.

Thrice shou'd Rebellion rear her head,
With front of brass, but heart of lead,
Still bent upon Restoring :
Before my Sons thrice shall she flie,
Thrice at their feet, in vain, shall lie
* Wives for their Lords imploring.

But, whither would the Muse aspire ?
Forbear to tune the merry lyre
To themes past thy attaining :
For, to attempt in humble Odes,
The Acts of Heroes, Speech of Gods,
At best, is but prophaning.

*Trojae renascens alite lugubri
Fortuna tristi clade iterabitur,
Ducente victrices catervas
Conjuge me Iovis et sorore.*

*Ter si resurgat murus aëneus
Auctore Phoebos, ter pereat meis
Excisus Argivis : ter uxor
Capta virum puerosque ploret.*

*Non hoc jocosae conveniet lyrae :
Quo, musa, tendis ? desine pervicax
Referre sermones Deorum, et
Magna modis tenuare parvis.*

* Lady Derwentwater, in reb. 1715.

F I N I S.

COMMENTARIOLVM.

O DEN hanc unanimis criticorum consensus ad coelum usque adeo extulit, ut hujusce poëtae, *cujus ingenium, mens divinior, atque os magna sonans* notissima sunt, reliquis omnibus sublimior, ac omni laude major habita fuerit: etiam dum veram ejus mentem, tam admirabili arte ab Augusto celatam, relictamque acri sui ipsius judicio eruendam, ne unus quidem eorum vel levissime subodoraverit. Illam autem cum postea tandem sagacissimus vir^a, Tanaquillus Faber, luce meridiana clarius illustraverit, eo usque laudatus est, ut dubium serio statuerit Dacierius^b, insignis ille judex, *vix et ne vix quidem* Soceri nomine corrumpendus: *Vtrum carminis artificis, an interpreti major habendus sit honor.* Id certum est; quantumcumque sublimia poëtices ornamenta, quae in ejus fabrica ubique nitent, admiremur: poëtae tamen consilium, judicium, artificium, quae ab interpretatione elucidantur, postquam per tot secula delituerant, non possumus non magis adhuc magisque admirari. Baxterus^c equidem noster, Petrum Rodellium secum una solum, contra alios omnes, sentientem sequutus, ejusque veluti *magistri in verba juratus*, haec ipsa repetit. *Fabulam de transferendo ab Augusto Ilium imperio, e cerebello suo commentus est Tanaquillus Faber.* Quocirca, de dumviratu isthoc id veri stilo Benteleiano enunciari possit: *Non omnibus a natura datum est habere oculum.* Quinimo, si forsan ultro conniveat prior, ut vere fabulosam illam, quam e cerebello suo certissime commentus est ipse, Augusti scilicet cum Antonio comparationem substitueret; tum competit ei notissimum illud: *Caecutit is maxime qui volens caecutit.*

FVLMINANTIS MAGNA MANVS IOVIS] Qui non sentit quanto suavius haec sonent, quam illa, ut prius edita, *fulminantis magna Iovis manus*; cum criticorum principe Benteleio^d facile credam, quod *ei non a natura datum est habere aurem.* In exemplo novo, finem coronat, ut debet, magna sonans vox, *Iovis*: in veteri, post hanc sequitur misere claudicans vox, *manus*. Praeterea quod, in syntaxi lyrica pulcherrimus est ordo, ubi ἐπίθετον versum ducit, nomenque suum claudit. Quis enim ad finem primae, *Sublimi feriam vertice sidera*: aut, *Iracunda Iovem fulmina ponere*, ad finem tertiae legere maluerit? Ecce autem iterum Baxterus, et est mihi saepe vocandus ad partes: qui Benteleium haud levius quam Fabrum laceffens, incusans^e eum *tanto cum molimine et pompa, collatis omnium temporum exemplaribus, Horatium magis oppressisse, quam adornasse*; asserit auri suae prius editam lectionem magis placere. Quin mala certe avi, contra duos tam praeclaros viros militat hic Thraso: cui aptissime dici potuit, quod, in simili olim comparatione, ranae frustra se instanti dictum fuit: *Non si te ruperis, par eris.* Neque revera hunc rumpi doluisset quisquam: cum *nec lex est justior ulla, quam poëtica illa.*

Rumpatur, quisquis rumpitur invidia.

Ex inaequali hoc certamine effugit equidem vivus; sed faucius adeo, sensibusque praecipuis privatus: ut palam ipse ostenderit, *sibi non a natura datum esse habere vel aurem, vel oculum.*

FERIENT] Verum ne vates noster lyricus, celebre hoc carmen suum canens, dum, *sublimi feriat sidera vertice*, supra critices sphaeram ἔξω βέλους, pennis non homini datis, adscendisse videretur: nil miri, si vocem saltem unicam *nigro carbone notare* voluerit criticorum magni nominis uterque, Dacierius, et Sanadonus. Priori^f igitur visa est vox, *ferient*, debilis admodum atque impar omnino ictum designare horrendum, quem immenstae istae *fracti orbis ruinae* necessario minarentur. Edito autem rursus diu postea libro suo, habemus hunc ipsum resipiscentem et confitentem reum, quod praeproperè accusationem istam instituerat: *cum forsitan debili hac voce consulto uti maluerit Horatius, ut alteram illam, impavidum, tanto fortiores faceret.* Quinetiam hanc resipis-

^a Tan. Fabri Epist. lib. ii. 43.

^b Dacier. Hor. ad loc.

^c Baxt. Hor. ad loc.

^d Bentr. Hor. ad loc.

^e Baxt. Hor. in praef.

^f Dacier. Hor. ad loc.

centiam, atque deletam accusationem, non modo approbavit posterior², verum etiam de suo sensum plenius pulchriusque explicavit ipse, locum hunc in modum interpretatus. Iustum ac tenacem propositi virum *immensa fracti orbis frustra in caput inlabentia non dejicient aut obruent, sed, si qua possint, leviter modo afficient*, ferient: *nihil illum movebunt maxime horrendae ruinae, animi tranquillitate cedere nescia gaudentem*, inpavidum. Quam quidem ex Horatii manu depictam Stoicae fortitudinis tabulam, quis non negaverit ab alio quovis pictore vel exsuperari, vel exaequari posse?

TANGAT] *Exemplo*, inquit idem, *omnino huic simile dat ille ipse Dacierius, ad versum 54. Quicumque mundo terminus obstitit, Hunc tangat armis. Verbum tangat, quod prima facie debile videtur, penitus perspectum perpolitum Romanorum praeconio fungi invenitur, dum mira arte denotet facilitatem, qua victorias suas vel ad extremos mundi terminos persequi potuerint.* Adjici debuit, mea quidem sententia, tam notae ornamēto, quam firmamento, gloriosum illud, quod a Caesare de una sua victoria renunciatum erat, de omnibus autem pariter verum: *Veni, vidi, vici*. Inde vero infeliciter contra criticum patet, eodem ipso argumento quo defenditur vox, *tangat*, damnari id omne quod voci, *ferient*, objicitur. *Nil fuit unquam sic impar sibi.*

INLABATVR] Verum enimvero, cum Sanadonius Dacierium ex ore suo ἀποκατά-
κλιτον exhibuerit, ejusque errorem tam aperte ostenderit: ecquis crediderit illum ipsum, eodem temporis momento, eodem oris spiritu, in eundem incidere posse; et naufragium facere in eum scopulum, quem quasi digito jam nunc monstraverit: nisi forte aequum esse judicaverit, ut parem in errando sortem experiretur criticorum *fratrum par nobile*? Id ipsum tamen tibi, reverende pater, inauspicato accidisse et video, et doleo: magisque adhuc dolerem, nisi meminerim hoc omne esse humanum. Vix enim lata, nec tamen iniqua, in fratrem sententia, statim haec adjicis. *Potiori jure reprehendi potuit verbum*, illabatur, *quod magis designat motum lentum et imperceptibilem, quam rapidum ac violentum.* Haec culpa, inquis, *compensatur, non modo emphasi, quam litera A repetita ejus pronuntiationi praebet, verum etiam reliquis istis vocibus, fractus orbis, et, ruinae, quas secum sociatas habet.* Ipsa etiam vocis longitudo animum inducit aptam sibi fingere ideam concussionis vastorum illorum corporum, quorum ruinae, tanta ex altitudine decedentes, non possint non omne quod occurrerit funditus obruere. Sunt haec, fateor, pulcherrima culpaē conjectae excusatio. Sed frustra omnia: cum nulla sit culpa. E contra, ob eam ipsam rationem qua culpa vocatur, dici potius debuit: *O quanta species est!* Enimvero, tu ipse, critice illustris, jam in tribunali sedens, triumphansque pro merito, quod duas voces debiles proposito suo maxime accommodas, ideoque fortissimas modo pronuntiaveris; tecum certe iterum atque iterum animo reputare, et quaerere debuisti: annon haec tertia etiam vox debilis, illa ipsa debilitate, Horatii mentem tanto fortius expresserit? Neque sane postulaverit haec quaestio, ut ad eam solvendam, *sudes multum, frustra que labores.* Concedas solum, rogo, vocem, *inlabatur*, motum lentum sed perceptibilem describere: nam motus tuus imperceptibilis videtur nullus, cum *de non apparentibus et non existentibus eadem sit ratio*. Tumingas virum fortem Horatianum, *immensas fracti orbis ruinas* in caput lento quidem, sed perceptibili sed inevitabili motu *inlabentes*, apertis et *siccis oculis*, vel potius *fixis* neque coniventibus neque declinantibus videntem, nihilominus tamen *inpavidum*, quamquam expectantem. Fingas jam virum fortem tuum, in quem motu rapido ac violento *fractus orbis* irruet, obruetque eum etiam *inpavidum*, quia attonitum atque inopinantem. Mihi utique haudquaquam relinqui videtur quaestio: Vter horum fortior sit habendus? Sin tibi suadeat animus, ut credas hunc tuum virum esse fortiorem; dicas tu ipsi, velim, quod uxori respondit fenex comicus Terentianus: *Vin' tibi me isthuc, etsi sit incredibile, credere? Credo.*

Sed manum de tabula: haec si minus mihi suffecerint, ut Horatium ab aliorum accusationibus penitus liberem, quod maxime speravi; ostenderint saltem, quod proxime volui; quantum meis praeconiis illum ego ipse colam, atque argumentis qua possim accerrime defendam.

² Sanad. Hor. ad loc.